

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, June 1, 1898, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Twin Oaks, June 1st., 1898. My darling Alec:

Still no letter and I know you ought to have sent me one for Mr. McCurdy wrote you were home and calling for your mail.

But he said what I did not like, that at the first warm day the trouble with your head returned. I am very much disturbed Alec darling. Please do be careful I never needed you more than now. I feel so worried about our children's future I want you at hand, don't run any risks with your health. Even the N.E.A. isn't worth your life. I would act as your representative and spend your money for you, don't come unless you get much thinner. I haven't heard any remarks on that heed.

I telegraphed you this morning for your card catalogue of Papa. We thought we would give a little history of the state of the Art of Oral teaching before Papa took hold of it. If you don't like our production you can refuse it. We have been reading all we could get hold of, and there is a letter of Mrs. Horace Nann's which I think sounds the key note. She says she sees that the old fire in Mr. S. G. Howe is rekindling under "the right touch"—That is to say all that Papa had to argue in favor of Articulation had been already said by Dr. Howe, but it was Papa that applied the "right touch" that started all the articulation schools going. The Legislative Committee are so polite to Dr. Howe and so ready to ascribe everything to him, and it is true he was and did all they say, but all he was and had done and had said had been done and said many times before, it was Papa that forced them to listen and take action.

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How very strangely the old battles are fought over and over again and each general fancies himself the first and only Leader in that fight. Think of all you argued against deaf mute marriage, it was all argued by Dr. Howe twenty years before. He would not have reunions at Perkins Ins., because he would not have the blind intermarry. By the way the Perkins Ins. was founded by relatives of Papa's— Uncles of his father I think. His Grandmother was Joanne Perkins and I think it was her father that founded the Ins. if not it was her brother James Perkins.

Goodnight I am tired and love you,

Yours ever, Mabel.